

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/003271

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B17/17

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 595 999 B2 (MARCHIONE ANDREAS ET AL) 22 July 2003 (2003-07-22) cited in the application the whole document -----	1
A	US 4 896 663 A (VANDEWALLS MARK V) 30 January 1990 (1990-01-30) column 3, line 1 - column 4, line 66 figure 1 -----	1
A	US 6 156 069 A (AMSTUTZ HARLAN C) 5 December 2000 (2000-12-05) column 5, line 45 - column 6, line 20 figure 9 -----	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 November 2004

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08/11/2004

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6595999	B2	19-12-2002	EP 1252868 A1 30-10-2002 AU 3703702 A 31-10-2002 US 2002193801 A1 19-12-2002
US 4896663	A	30-01-1990	NONE
US 6156069	A	05-12-2000	NONE